

**This interview with
BARRY MANN and CYNTHIA WEIL
was conducted by the Library of Congress
on December 7, 2015.**



LOC: Can you give us background on the writing of that song—was it done in one session or over multiple days? Weeks? What was the inspiration?

BM/CW: We were inspired by our favorite song at the time. It was “Baby I Need Your Loving,” written by Holland, Dozier and Holland. We wanted to capture the same intense yearning. The song was written in two sessions. We worked on it by ourselves and hit a wall when it came to the last line of the chorus and didn't know where to go after that. So we called Phil [Spector], and played him what we had over the phone. He said, “Let's finish it together” and came up with the last line of the verse and the idea for the bridge. The following day we went over to his place and completed the song.

LOC: What was it like the first time you heard the record/playback? Were you in the studio when it was being recorded?

We had returned to New York City when Phil recorded it.

When he called to play it over the phone, he had dropped the key and slowed it down and, at first, Barry thought he was playing it on the wrong speed.

LOC: What should people know about Phil Spector, the producer?

He was difficult but truly talented. He had a vision in his head and worked until he attained it.

LOC: What was your relationship with the Righteous Brothers like?

We became very close to Bill Medley and we are to this day. He is great person as well as a great singer.

LOC: A pure craft question: What time is most productive for you as writers/creators?

Since we now only write now when a producer or recording artist reaches out to us for a song we would say any time after the call is productive.

LOC: There have been many, many cover versions of “You’ve Lost,” are there any that stand out especially for you?

On Barry's CD “Soul and Inspiration,” he recorded “Lovin' Feelin'” with our friend Carole King and we both think that version is very special. Of course, Hall and Oats stand out as well.